

MEETING OF
THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, April 20, 2011, with the following members in attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman	Ed Kee, Secretary of Agriculture
William Vanderwende, Vice Chairman	Chip Flowers, Jr., State Treasurer
Theodore P. Bobola, Jr.	Tim Taraila representing Steven Ditmer

Absent: William "Chip" Narvel, Jr., Robert L. Emerson, Kevin Coyle, and L. Allen Messick, Jr.

The following staff members were in attendance: Michael McGrath, Howard Mesick, Milton Melendez, Scott Blaier, Cathy Mesick, Kathi Spangler, and Robin West.

Others in attendance: F. Michael Parkowski, Esq., Austin Short, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, and Mr. Ron Vickers from DNREC.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:35 a.m. as an informational meeting as we did not have a quorum.

I. Current Situation Report:

Robin West informed the Board that we have a total of 1,090 farms in preservation districts totaling 155,635 acres, with a total of 625 farms under agricultural easements totaling 99,134 acres at a cost of \$174,244,287. For PDR 16, there are a total of 42 farms, comprising 3,871 acres, with a value of \$40,155,000. For PDR 17, there are a total of 13 farms, comprising 963 acres, with a value of \$9,796,000. For the Forestland Preservation Program there are 40 Forestland Preservation Areas comprising 2,878 acres. For the Forestland Preservation Area Easements, there are a total of 9 properties, comprising 872 acres, with a value of \$1,450,804.

II. Monitoring Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that 171 Federal properties have been visited in 2011; and all non-Federal properties will be visited by July 2011. A total of 375 properties are scheduled to be visited in 2011 out of a total amount of 821 properties.

III. Financial Highlights:

Howard Mesick the Financial Statement for the month of March 2011, informing the Foundation Board that we had, as of March 31, 2011, \$261,285.73 in the Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account. We received \$280.00 license plate income and \$54.35 in rollback taxes from Kent and Sussex Counties. Expenditures for the month of March totaled \$34,329.89. Due to the fact we did not have a quorum the vote to approve the Financial Statement as presented was not taken.

Discussion next followed on funding for Purchase of Development Rights 16. An announcement was made that New Castle County would be funding farmland preservation in the amount of \$500,000.00, and Kent County has informed us that they will be giving the Foundation \$100,000.00 in funding. It was also mentioned that we will be changing our deadline for PDR 16 to December 2010 and PDR 17 would be from January 2011 to December 2011.

Secretary Kee asked about getting figures on current value of our farms. Discussion followed and possible contract with the University may be considered for this project.

At 9:20 a.m. Mr. Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. arrived and a quorum was established.

IV. District Eligibility:

1. Brickyard Preservation District, ID#S-10-12-259. After discussion, **Ed Kee moved to accept for eligibility the Brickyard Preservation District, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**
2. James L. Carpenter District, ID#S-10-12-260. After discussion, **Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility the James L. Carpenter District, seconded by Ed Kee. Motion unanimously approved.**
3. Corner Ketch District, ID#N-11-03-261. After discussion, **Ed Kee moved to accept for eligibility the Corner Ketch District, seconded by Chip Flowers, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.** Mr. Ron Vickers from DNREC was attending and expressed his pleasure in having this property placed in our preservation program.

V. Expansion Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. Ronshir Expansion #2 of the Cattail-Gallo District, ID#K-10-12-082G. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Ronshir Expansion #2 of the Cattail-Gallo District, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**
2. Clark Seed Expansion of the Bobola-Voshell's Cove District, ID#K-11-01-163I. After discussion, **Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Clark Seed Expansion of the Bobola-Voshell's Cove District, seconded by Chip Flowers, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**
3. Isaacs Branch Expansion of the Westville District, ID#K-10-12-140C. After discussion, **Ed Kee moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Isaacs Branch Expansion of the Westville District, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Secretary of Agriculture's Veto – Secretary Ed Kee waived the right of veto for the above Districts and Expansions.

VII. Public Comments – There were no public comments.

VIII. Minutes:

Chairman Garey asked if there were any comments or changes to the March 16, 2011, minutes. Hearing none, the Chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **William Vanderwende moved to approve the March minutes, seconded by Ed Kee. Motion unanimously approved.**

IX. Financial Highlights:

After discussion, **Chip Flowers, Jr. moved to approve the March 2011 financial statement as previously presented, seconded by Ed Kee. Motion unanimously approved.**

X. Executive Session – There was a need for an executive session prior to the selection of additional properties in Purchase of Development Rights 15. **William Vanderwende moved the Board go into Executive Session, seconded by Chip Flowers, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.** The Board went into Executive Session at 9:30 a.m.

The Executive Session ended 9:40 a.m. **William Vanderwende moved the Board go into regular session, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

XI. PDR 15 – Additional Purchase of Development Rights Selections.

Discussion was held concerning the list of selections for additional properties for Purchase of Development Rights

Round 15. After discussion, **Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. moved to accept the list of selections for additional properties having their development rights purchased in PDR 15, seconded by Chip Flowers, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

It was also mentioned, again, about the deadline extension of PDR 16, as discussed previously during the first part of today's meeting. **Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. moved to extend PDR 16 deadline for applications up to and including December 2010 with PDR 17 to run up to and including December 2011. Motion seconded by Chip Flowers. Motion unanimously approved**

XII. Other Business: There was no other business to be brought before the Board.

XIII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation, **William Vanderwende moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ed Kee. Motion unanimously approved.** The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on May 18, 2011 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. Garey
Chairman